

REPORT TO	ON
CABINET	Wednesday, 16 December 2020



TITLE	PORTFOLIO	REPORT OF
Urgent Decisions Taken Due to COVID-19 Pandemic	Leader of the Council	Shared Services Lead – Democratic, Scrutiny & Electoral Services

Is this report a KEY DECISION (i.e. more than £100,000 or impacting on more than 2 Borough wards?)	No
Is this report on the Statutory Cabinet Forward Plan ?	No
Is the request outside the policy and budgetary framework and therefore subject to confirmation at full Council? This should only be in exceptional circumstances.	No
Is this report confidential?	No

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To formally report to Cabinet on the urgent decisions taken in accordance with the Council's constitution due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

PORTFOLIO RECOMMENDATIONS

2. Cabinet is asked to note the report.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

3. To ensure Cabinet is made aware of the urgent decisions taken in accordance with the Council's constitution.

CORPORATE OUTCOMES

4. The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

An exemplary Council	✓
Thriving communities	
A fair local economy that works for everyone	

BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT

5. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the Council was required to cancel all Member meetings. It was therefore necessary to use the urgent decision procedure in accordance with Standing Order 35 of the Council's Constitution. Whilst hybrid meetings have been taking place some urgent decisions have been required primarily linked with the pandemic.
6. The constitution allows for urgent decisions to be taken by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader/relevant Cabinet Member.
7. Additionally it was decided that the Scrutiny Chair should confirm that he was satisfied that there was genuine urgency before any urgent decision was taken (rather than just where decisions might be outside the budget or policy framework as required in the constitution).
8. Urgent decisions were only taken where this was absolutely necessary and where possible advance notice was provided that the decision was to be taken in the weekly update sent to all Members.
9. In order to provide full transparency the decision reports and notices are published on the Council's website and again made available to all Members.

PROPOSALS (e.g. RATIONALE, DETAIL, FINANCIAL, PROCUREMENT)

10. Cabinet is asked to note the following urgent decisions, which were taken in accordance with the Council's constitution:

3 November 2020	COVID-19 Local Restrictions Support Grant
13 November 2020	To allow medical certificates to be issued by General Practitioners other than the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers' own GP
19 November 2020	Test and Trace Support payment of £500
24 November 2020	Holiday Hunger Scheme – Christmas 2020
3 December 2020	Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme Grant Bid Application
4 December 2020	COVID-19 Additional Restrictions Grant and Local Restrictions Support Grant

A copy of the reports and decision notices were published when the urgent decisions were taken and are available by following this weblink:

<https://southribble.moderngov.co.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13240>

CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT AND OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION

11. Consultation details were included in the individual urgent decision reports considered.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

12. Not applicable to this report. Alternative options were included in the individual urgent decision reports considered.

AIR QUALITY IMPLICATIONS

13. None as a result of this report. Implications were included in the individual urgent decision reports considered.

RISK MANAGEMENT

14. None as a result of this report. Risk issues were included in the individual urgent decision reports considered.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPACT

15. None as a result of this report. Equality and diversity impact was included in the individual urgent decision reports considered.

COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER

16. This report informs Cabinet of the urgent decisions taken. Statutory Finance Officer comments were provided on the urgent decisions taken.

COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

17. We are satisfied that the decisions that have been made are in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Constitution. Clearly the exceptional circumstances we were confronted with required a more extensive use of urgency powers than would normally be the case.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

The individual urgent decision reports mentioned above are available by following this weblink:

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APPENDICES

None.

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